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 A N A C C O U N T  
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 P R O C E E D I N G S  
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 S e s s i o n   H o u s e

In the *Old Baily*, Feb. 28. 1682. against *Christopher Vrats*, *George Boriskie*, *John Stern*; the principal Murderers of *THOMAS THYNN*, Esq; who was shot in his Coach in the *Pall Mall*, Feb. 12.

As also, all the Passages and Particulars which related to *Count Charles John Coningsmark*, lately apprehended in Disguise at *Gravesend*, and against whom a Bill of Indictment was found, as the first Contriver of that Bloody Tragedy.

**A** Bout 9 in the morning the Court being, set, and the Jury impannelled for trying these notorious Offenders called over, being half *English* and half of other Nations, the Prisoners were brought up by order of Court, and severally arraigned for the Murder, and demanded to plead Guilty or Not Guilty. As likewise, *Charles John Coningsmark*, who was put upon the same Jury, he as well as the rest, having an Interpreter allowed him. When they had so pleaded, and put themselves upon God and the Country, the Jury were sworn, and they ordered to look to their Charges; whereupon the Count made a peremptory Exception against seventeen or eighteen: but at last, a Jury of *English* and *Aliens* were sworn, and the Indictment read, which was, That that *George Boriskie* had on the 12th of February last, with a Musquettoon, charg'd with Powder and Bullet, shot and killed *Thomas Thynn* Esq; and that *Christopher Vrats* and *John Sterne* were aiding and abetting in the same.

After which, *Sir Francis Wiltens* opened the Matter and Manner of the Barbarous Murther, as likewise, *Sir Francis Winington* and *Mr. Williams* Counsels for the King; whereupon, the Evidence were called, and the first that were sworn, were two of Esq; *Thynn's* Men, who gave Evidence, That their Master having been in his Coach at the Countess of *Northumberland's*, and returning home through the *Pall*



*Pall Mall*, on the Date aforesaid, in the Evening, three Persons came riding up to the Coach, one stopping it, and another finging into it, and then fled with what Haste they could: and although Pursuit was made after them, they could not to be taken. Next, the Examinations which were taken by Sir *John Lisle*, and Mr. *Bridgman*, were sworn to, by the said Justices, who gave the Substance of them as followeth; That that *Bereskie* had confessed he shot into the Coach at the Command of *Vrats*, and that *Vrats* had confessed he went to compel Esq; *Tkinn* to fight him, and for some Affronts put upon Count *Coringmark*; he desired *Sterne* and *Bereskie* only to see fair Play: saying, that the latter fired without his Order.

But it being proved fully, not only by their Examinations before the Justices, but likewise they in Court Confessing the same, the Counsel proceeded to call Witnesses to prove that the Count was the Principal Contriver: whereupon one Mr. *Hansen* Twor to the Counts Brother was called, who gave Evidence that he had entertained *Bereskie* in his Service but the Friday before the Murther, and that he had Bought him a Sword, and other Accoutrements for Horsemanship. Doctor *Frederick Harder* being Sworn, Testified that the Count was his Patient, and he had a breaking-cut in his Breast, which caused him to Disguise himself, because he would not be obliged to Drink or sort himself with any Company. A Foot-boy of his was likewise Sworn, who testified that *Vrats* was commonly with his Master, and that the night the Murther was done he came thither, and that the Count the next Morning fled, having shifted his Lodging 3 or 4 time. The Swede at *Rhotkerith*, at whose House he lay was called, who gave his Testimony that he came to his House, telling him he was in some danger, desiring to have change of Apparel, which he lent him, and that the next day he hired a Sculler, and was three days Cruising upon the River of *Thames* between that and *Gravesend*. The next were Mr. *Gibbons* and Mr. *Kid* who took him, their Evidence was, that they having notice from a person that the Count absconded at *Rhotkerith*, they got a Warrant and pursued him to *Gravesend*, where they had notice he was gone, and there Seized him, and that after various Discourses, he said that this business might prove a stain to his Blood, but that a brave Action in War would recover it. After which the Jury went out and considered the Evidence, when upon their return, they found *Vrats*, *Bereskie*, and *Sterne*, Guilty of Wilfull Murther, but Acquitted the Count: whereupon the Court proceeded to give Judgment of Death upon those that were found Guilty.

**F I N I S.**